IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
		:	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
YASUSHI KASAI)	0
		:	Group Art Unit: 2622
Application No.: 10/680,094)	
		:	Confirmation No.: 4435
Filed: October 8, 2003)	
	•	:	
For:	IMAGE PROCESSING)	
	APPARATUS AND IMAGE	:	
	PROCESSING METHOD	,	April 25, 2008
	I ROCESSING METHOD)	April 23, 2000

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed non-English documents are also attached.

For the concise explanation of relevance of non-English document JP 2002-152557, the Examiner is respectfully referred to the English abstract attached thereto.

For the concise explanation of relevance of non-English document JP 2001-197445, the Examiner is respectfully referred to the English abstract attached thereto, and to English language counterpart U.S. Patent No. 7,145,601 B2.

For the concise explanation of relevance of non-English document JP 2002-44611, the Examiner is respectfully referred to the English abstract attached thereto, and to English language counterpart U.S. Patent No. 7,031,595 B2.

Also, for the concise explanation of relevance of non-English document JP 2002-34000, the Examiner is respectfully referred to the English abstract attached thereto, and to English language counterpart U.S. Patent Appln. No. 2002/0031328 A1.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information (JP 2002-152557, JP 2001-197445, JP 2002-44611 and JP 2002-34000) in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner, and that an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Krause

Attorney for Applicant Registration No.: 24,613

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, New York 10112-3800 Facsimile: (212) 218-2200 FCHS_WS2116624v1